

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/670,908

Examiner

Toan C. To

Applicant(s)

ANTONSSON, ERIK K

Art Unit

3616

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Amendment filed on December 21, 2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-15.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

Toan To
Patent Examiner
January 3, 2006

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Harris, Scott on March 3, 2006.

The application has been amended as follows:

In claim 3:

Line 1, "device" was amended to --generator--

In claim 4, line 1, "device" was amended to --generator--; and line 2, "device" was amended to --elements--

Claim 5 was amended as followed:

--5. A generator as in claim 1 further comprising a cylindrical chamber, wherein said plurality of elements are circumferentially spaced from one another--

In claim 11:

Line 2, "installed" was deleted.

In claim 15:

Line 9, "unmeasured" was amended to --measured--

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1-15 are allowed.

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3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

With respect to claim 1, the prior art reference either alone or in combination fails to disclose, teach or suggest a programmable gas generator particularly comprising: a programmable multipart propulsion chip, having a plurality of individually accessible gas generation elements, each of which is accessible to produce gas output, and each of which, once activated, produces a measured amount of gas. These structures in combination with other structures as recited in claim 1 define over prior art of record.

With respect to claim 11, the prior art reference either alone or in combination fails to disclose, teach or suggest a method of operating an airbag particularly comprising: providing programmable propulsion chip, which produces an amount of gas output indicative of a control that is applied thereto, wherein said amount is controllable on individual unit basis; and storing a plurality of airbag inflation profiles and selecting one of said profiles based on said sensor characteristic. These method steps in combination with other method step as recited in the claim define over prior art of record.

With respect to claim 15, the prior art reference either alone or in combination fails to disclose, teach or suggest a programmable multipart propulsion chip, having a plurality of elements each to produce unmeasured gas output, which individually accessible said propulsion chip being driven by said profiles to produce a gas output based on said profiles. These structures in combination with other structures as recited in claim 15 define over prior art of record

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Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Toan C. To whose telephone number is (571) 272-6677. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri (8:00-5:00).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Paul Dickson can be reached on (571) 272-6669. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

TTo
March 3, 2006

 3/6/06
PAUL H. DICKSON
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3800